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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Appropriations**  
**Washington, DC 20515-6015**

May 3, 2000

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TELEPHONE:  
(202) 225-2771

The Honorable Mark Lindsay  
Assistant to the President for Management and  
Administration  
725 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Lindsay:

The House Committee on Appropriations, as a function of its oversight responsibilities, continues to seek to compile an accurate accounting of the costs associated with the First Lady's use of military aircraft used in her New York Senate Campaign. Since December of 1999, the Committee has sought specific information regarding the First Lady's travel and is growing increasingly frustrated by the untimely, inconsistent and incomplete nature of the information provided by the White House in regards to this very important issue.

Most recently, Chairmen Lewis joined us in sending a letter to the Secretary of Defense requesting specific information from Airlift Operations. This letter was transferred to the White House for response. The Committee subsequently received a letter from the Assistant to the President and Director of Legislative Affairs that failed to address any of the Committee's outstanding questions, referring instead to correspondence previously received by the Committee from the White House Office of Administration. Given this recent correspondence, the Committee concludes that your office has sole jurisdiction related to this matter; as such, it is incumbent upon you to respond to the Committee's request for information relating to the use of appropriated funds for First Lady travel.

Although the Committee recognizes the unique circumstances associated with the Senatorial campaign of the First Lady, the Committee must insist on both accurate and timely information regarding the use of federal appropriations to support all travel related to this campaign. The Committee will continue to insist on full disclosure of all federal costs associated with this travel.

To date, the Committee has received information regarding First Lady travel from October of 1998 through March 30, 2000. Again, some of this information is inconsistent with other information provided to the Committee by the White House as well as incomplete. Effective May 1, 2000, the Committee directs the White House to submit monthly reports on First Lady Travel no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Each report shall account for all travel taken by the First Lady for the preceding month. In recognition of today's date, the first report is due May 30, 2000 and, because the Committee does not have complete information for March 2000, shall include travel for March and April 2000.

Specifically, the Committee requests the following information:

1. The date(s) of each trip.
2. The destination(s) of each trip.
3. The type of aircraft used for each trip.
4. The total flight hours for each trip.
5. The passenger manifest for each trip, excluding United States Secret Service personnel.
6. The invoice for each trip generated by Airlift Operations.
7. The amount and date of reimbursement received by Airlift Operations from the First Lady's Senate Campaign Committee for each trip.
8. The operating costs per hour for each type of aircraft utilized, as determined by the Department of Defense.

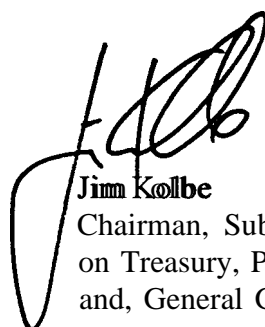
In the event that the White House fails to provide all of the information requested on May 30, 2000 and the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month thereafter, the Committee will find it difficult to continue to provide federal appropriations for White House travel. The Committee insists that appropriations only be used for authorized purposes and will not be in a position to make a determination regarding this matter absent complete, accurate, and timely information.

If you have any questions, please call Jim Dyer of the Committee staff at (202) 225-2771.

Sincerely,



Bill Young  
Chairman,  
Committee on Appropriations



Jim Kolbe  
Chairman, Subcommittee  
on Treasury, Postal Service  
and, General Government